

In the Claims:

1 1. (currently amended) A bone plate of ~~complex form, suitable adapted~~ adapted for use  
2 in securing a joint portion to a long portion of an osteotomically separated long bone  
3 osteotomy, the bone plate having a longitudinal axis, a bone-contacting bottom side and a  
4 top side with at least ~~one complex aperture two complex apertures~~ each complex aperture  
5 comprised of at least one set of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance  
6 therebetween and oriented along the longitudinal axis for securing the plate to the long  
7 bone, the offset equal to less than the sum of the radii of each such adjacent overlapping  
8 holes yet more than a radius of a larger such overlapping holes, such offset defining a  
9 necked down portion between the overlapping holes, each overlapping hole having  
10 ~~multifaceted surfaces~~ female threaded surfaces formed therein adapted to lock with  
11 threads of a corresponding bone screw, the holes communicating through the plate from  
12 ~~the top to the bottom side, and wherein, when applied, at least one set of two adjacent~~  
13 ~~overlapping holes is located so as to lie on opposite sides~~ the bone plate including a  
14 second hole for securing the joint portion to the long bone portion, the second hole of an  
15 ~~osteotomy site and positioned on a third hole is aligned at an angle with respect to the~~  
16 longitudinal axis..

1 2. (currently amended) The bone plate of claim 1, wherein the apertures positioned so as  
2 to be on a either side of the point of osteotomy when applied to bone include wide bevels  
3 on a far end of the aperture away from the osteotomy site.

1 3. (currently amended) The bone plate of claim 1, wherein bone plate further includes at

2 least one locking bone peg having a threaded head which locks with the threads  
3 ~~multifaceted surface~~ of a corresponding overlapping hole of an aperture, thereby better  
4 ensuring rigid fixing of a fracture when using pegs having a body without threads.

1 4. (cancelled) ~~The bone plate of claim 1, wherein the multifaceted surfaces are threaded~~  
2 ~~surfaces~~

1 5. (original) The bone plate of claim 1, wherein the bone plate includes at least one round  
2 hole having a corresponding countersink, the countersink being axially offset from an  
3 orientation perpendicular to the top surface by a predetermined angle.

1 6. (original) The bone plate of claim 5, wherein the predetermined angle is approximately  
2 25 degrees.

1 7. (currently amended) A bone plate of complex form, suitable for use in osteotomy, the  
2 bone plate having

3 (a) a least two axes on which bone screw receiving holes are located including a  
4 longitudinal axis and an axis substantially angled therefrom, and

5 (b) a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side with at least one complex aperture  
6 each complex aperture comprised of at least one set of two overlapping holes having an  
7 offset of a given distance therebetween and oriented along the longitudinal axis for  
8 securing the plate to the long bone, the offset equal to less than the sum of the radii of

9 each such adjacent overlapping holes yet more than a radius of a larger such overlapping  
10 holes, such offset defining a necked down portion between the overlapping holes, each  
11 overlapping hole having female threaded surfaces formed therein adapted to lock with  
12 threads of a corresponding bone screw ~~two complex apertures each comprised of at least~~  
13 ~~one set of two overlapping holes each having multifaceted surfaces, the holes~~  
14 ~~communicating through the plate from the top to the bottom side, wherein, when applied,~~  
15 ~~at least one set of two adjacent overlapping holes is located so as to lie on opposite sides~~  
16 ~~of an osteotomy site.~~

1 8. (currently amended) The bone plate of claim 7, wherein the apertures positioned so as  
2 to be on either a side of the point of osteotomy when applied to bone include wide bevels  
3 on a far end and near end of the apertures with respect to the osteotomy site.

1 9. (previously presented) The bone plate of claim 7, wherein bone plate further  
2 accommodates at least one locking bone peg having an unthreaded body and threaded  
3 head which locks with threads of a corresponding threaded aperture, thereby better  
4 ensuring rigid fixing of a fracture.

1 10. (cancelled) ~~The bone plate of claim 7, wherein the multifaceted surfaces are threaded~~  
2 ~~surfaces.~~

1 11. (previously presented) The bone plate of claim 7 wherein a distance between the sets  
2 of overlapping holes is defined to optimize either closing or opening of wedge femoral

3 osteotomies.

1 12. (original) The bone plate of claim 11 where the distance is approximately 15mm.

1 13. (original) The bone plate of claim 12 where a distal end of the plate forms a natural  
2 curve corresponding to the shape of the distal femur in order to minimize the potential of  
3 plate overhang.

1 14. (currently amended) An orthopedic kit including:

2 a. a bone plate of complex form, suitable for use in osteotomy, the bone plate having a  
3 longitudinal axis, a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side with at least three complex  
4 apertures each comprised of at least one set of two overlapping holes each having female  
5 threaded ~~multifaceted~~ surfaces, the holes communicating through the plate from the top to  
6 the bottom side, and wherein, when applied, one set of two adjacent overlapping holes of  
7 a complex aperture is located so as to lie on ~~opposite sides~~ a side of an osteotomy site; and

8 b. at least one bone screw engageable with the bone plate.

1 15. (currently amended) The kit of claim 14, further comprising a drill guide having a  
2 main drill guide surface and opposite end portions, one end portion of which is securely  
3 engageable with the female threaded ~~multifaceted~~ surface of a hole in the bone plate so as  
4 to securely hold the drill guide in a desired orientation with respect to the bone plate for  
5 stabilizing a drill used in an orthopedic procedure.

1 16. (currently amended) The kit of claim 14, wherein, when a bone plate is applied to a  
2 bone, at least one set of two overlapping holes is located so as to lie on one side of the  
3 osteotomy site and at least one set of two adjacent overlapping holes is located so as to lie  
4 on an opposite side of the osteotomy site ~~two sets of such overlapping holes are located~~  
5 ~~such that at least one set each lies on opposite sides of an osteotomy site~~ and the third is  
6 aligned at approximately 60 degrees with the longitudinal axis.

1 17. (new) The bone plate of claim 1, further comprising at least two sets of complex  
2 apertures each comprised of at least one set of two adjacent overlapping holes each having  
3 female threaded surfaces, wherein, when applied, at least one set of two adjacent  
4 overlapping holes is located so as to lie on one side of the osteotomy site and at least one  
5 set of two adjacent overlapping holes is located so as to lie on an opposite side of the  
6 osteotomy site.